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himself so fervidly would do well to read again this history and to study a little more deeply the spirit of their New Testaments, before throwing themselves with clapping hands and huzzaing lips at his feet. What reason can Mr. Hobson assign why the foreign powers of whom there is such terrible fear just now, in all *naval circles* particularly, have not accepted the "invitation" of our weakness to attack us even once all these years, while we have been weak — comparatively much weaker than now? Does he know that no foreign power has ever declared war against us, since the creation of the nation, even in our weakest days — or has so much as threatened to do so? If he would look carefully, he would find our danger of attack from abroad, if one should ever be made upon us, arising from an entirely different source. Our "weakness" is our strength, and always has been.

### The Women's Universal Peace Demonstration.

The universal demonstration of women in behalf of peace and arbitration was so successful in this country last year that the Executive Meeting of the National Council of Women, held recently in New Orleans, by unanimous vote instructed its Committee on Peace and Arbitration to arrange for holding meetings again this May in all parts of the land, and hereafter year by year. It is expected that the demonstrations on the 18th inst. will be both more numerous and more enthusiastic if possible than those last year, when the organization was hardly as yet completed.

We gather some very interesting details from the admirable report of Mrs. May Wright Sewall, chairman of the Demonstration Committee, submitted by her at the New Orleans Executive Council Meeting. Sixteen organizations of women affiliated with the National Council coöperated in last year's demonstration. These include most of the important women's associations of the country, such as the National Woman's Suffrage Association, the National W. C. T. U., the National Relief Society, Young Ladies' National Improvement Association, National Christian Purity League, National Association Loyal Women of American Liberty, National Association of Business Women, National Council of Jewish Women, American Federation of Nurses, etc.

All these associations were invited by Mrs. Sewall to form national committees of coöperation, to secure discussion of the subject in the local press, to issue letters to the local clergy inviting them to speak on the subject the Sunday prior to the Demonstration, and to organize meetings in as many places as possible. Some of the affiliated associations took up the matter to the extent asked for by Mrs. Sewall, others in part. Some, for special reasons, did not act. A curious reason was given by an association of women

at Boise City, Idaho, for not attempting a demonstration. The Ministerial Association of the place refused to coöperate, saying that they were "decidedly war ministers," that "it takes the musket to prepare the way for missionaries," etc., so that the poor sister who had the subject at heart could do nothing with these belligerent preachers in the way.

The result of the efforts made by the various women's associations, under the lead of Mrs. Sewall's committee, was three hundred and twenty-two meetings held in different parts of the country. The organizations which did the most effective work were the National Woman's Suffrage Association, the National Women's Relief Society, the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association, the National Association of Colored Women, and the Supreme Hive of the Ladies of the Maccabees. These societies were responsible for two hundred and eighty of the meetings, the Colored Women for one hundred meetings, beating any other single organization in number of gatherings. Some of these meetings were small, many of medium size, and some were very large.

At all the meetings the resolutions sent out by Mrs. Sewall were adopted either as drawn by her or in a modified form. It was noticed that in other places besides Boise City the ministers were apathetic. In Portland, Me., it was reported that the Roman Catholic Bishop was the only one of thirty-five clergymen addressed who gave a strong and unqualified endorsement of the movement. The Nurses' Association reported that at the meeting held in Baltimore under the auspices of their Association, Dr. Edward Griffin, Dean of the Johns Hopkins University, had presided, while the Bishop of Maryland, a judge of the Supreme Court, and other prominent people had taken part. The meeting held at Detroit had in it delegates from organizations representing nearly eight thousand women. In meetings in a number of large cities organized by the councils of Jewish women, both Jews and Christians participated. In many places women of widely different sects of Christians coöperated. Many women's clubs, not affiliated with the National Council, also coöperated.

Mrs. Sewall, in concluding her report, said that those results of the Demonstration which could not be tabulated were in number and significance far beyond those which could be formulated.

Every national organization of women and all the local branches of the National Council have been invited to coöperate in the Demonstration the eighteenth of this month, and this is expected in every way to surpass in influence that of last year. We certainly hope that the three hundred and twenty-two meetings of last year may grow to at least a thousand this. There is nothing more encouraging in the whole movement for a deeper and truer international friendship and for the organization of the nations into a form of union and coöperation that will secure the

incalculable blessings of permanent world-peace than the earnest, intelligent, devoted part which the women of all countries are taking in it. Women have been in the past in their way, through their influence on children *and on men*, as much the makers of war as men; it is their high prerogative and privilege to-day to be the makers of permanent peace for the world as it is not possible for men to be.

### Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting of the American Peace Society.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Business Meeting of the members of the American Peace Society will be held in the Society's office, 31 Beacon Street, Boston, on May 18, at 2 P. M., to receive the Annual Report of the Directors and the Annual Account of the Treasurer, to elect officers for the coming year, and to transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting. Members who are at a distance and cannot be present are cordially invited to send suggestions.

In consideration of this being the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Society, as well as the anniversary of the opening of the Hague Peace Conference, there will be a dinner for the members and their friends the evening of the same day at half past six o'clock at the rooms of the Twentieth Century Club, 2 Ashburton Place. A number of good speakers will take part in the program of the evening. Hon. Robert Treat Paine, president of the Society, will preside. Tickets for the dinner will be one dollar each. Application for them should be made immediately to Benjamin F. Trueblood, Secretary, 31 Beacon Street, Boston.

### Editorial Notes.

**The Stated Congress.**

The proposition that our government invite the nations of the world to unite in creating an advisory international congress to meet at stated intervals, as set forth in preceding issues of this paper, continues to awaken strong interest and approval. Mr. William McCarroll, president of the Manufacturers' Association of New York, writes: "I entirely agree in the opinion that the time is ripe for such a movement and that great benefits would accrue from the same. I trust that it may meet with a large measure of success." A member of Congress from the Middle West, whose name we withhold, writes: "I have no hesitancy in saying that I deem this the most important and far-reaching movement that has been inaugurated within the last ten years. To the general plan proposed by you and its purposes I readily commit myself." Another Congressman, from the South, writes: "I cordially approve of the object of this memorial and shall be glad to render any aid in my power." The

*Alkahest Magazine*, published at Atlanta, Ga., in concluding a two-column editorial on the subject, says: "Let there be an active campaign everywhere in behalf of this next great step forward in the development of the federation and peace of the world." *Le Christianisme au Vingtieme Siecle* (France) says: "The support of a legislative body as important as that which sits at Boston will certainly have great weight with the Houses at Washington. We join our friends with all our heart in desiring success for the movement."

**Parliamentary Arbitration Group.**

An event has just taken place in the French Chamber of Deputies which gives promise of large fruitfulness in the development of international arbitration. On the initiative of Mr. d'Estournelles de Constant an organization of members of the Chamber of all political parties has been formed, to be called the International Arbitration Group. The interest manifested in its creation was extraordinary. More than one hundred and thirty Deputies were enrolled for membership before the Group was formally organized, and the whole number is likely to reach two hundred. The president is Mr. d'Estournelles, the well-known diplomat and member of the Hague Court. The vice-presidents are distinguished members of the Chamber, among them Mr. Jaurès, the eminent Socialist, vice-president of the Chamber. The program of the Group, as set forth in Mr. d'Estournelles' address at its inauguration, is a very precise one. It is "to generalize the practice of international arbitration; to induce the governments to settle in a reasonable and honorable way, by judicial methods, not all controversies, but the greatest number possible; to extend to the relations of people to people the principles of judicial order which have been slowly but definitely established in the relations of man to man, of community to community, of district to district, within the same country." The Group proposes thus to limit its work to the one practical object of promoting arbitration. It differs from the Interparliamentary Group in the Chamber by having no organic connection with similar bodies in other countries. It will do its work in and through the French parliament, though of course coöperating actively with any similar groups which may be formed in other countries. Its first work will be to study closely the Hague Arbitration Convention, and the means by which the Hague Court may be brought into more general use; and in connection with this purpose it will try to secure between France and other countries the establishment of arbitration treaties, pledging the reference of disputes to The Hague. A powerful parliamentary organization like this ought to be able practically to control the action of the government in the matter of the purpose for which it is organized.